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Whitney himself, and while we may accept nearly all of the statements Whitney makes at second hand, the testimony is of course weakened by this fact. Until, then, geologists who are also palæontologists, which Professor Whitney would not claim to be, have settled the age of our western gold drift, which may turn out to be no older than our eastern glacial drift, we do not see why the layman should not wait until geologists agree in the matter. At any rate the present pamphlet is a confused and hasty statement of conclusions from a mass of indigested and necessarily vague notions of a few geologists, naturalists and historians (the latter most worthy men, but not claiming to know anything about the Pliocene, or any other geological period). We doubt whether one geologist in a hundred thinks man is older than the glacial period, while if well verified facts warranted the conclusion, they would willingly allow that man lived not only through the Pliocene, but began his existence in the Chalk period. The true scientist is willing to follow the lead of facts; critics, such as our author, seem anxious to prejudice good people against geology and geologists, and to forestall public opinion on questions about which geologists themselves are divided and uncertain from the very nature of the evidence with which they are dealing. Perhaps before 1872 Mr. Dawkins would have made the same overstatements that Lyell made previous to 1872. There is a tendency in the mind of a scientific discoverer to overestimate in his enthusiasm the tendency of new found facts, and to at first exaggerate the importance of the results of his discovery. But for a critic after the lapse of ten or fifteen years to "run a muck" at such men, as though the same opinions were now held as ten or fifteen years ago, is to mislead good people who cannot distinguish between blind and indiscriminating, ignorant pseudo-criticism and the habit on the part of every candid scientific man to abandon extreme views if fresh discoveries teach him to hold more moderate ones. The pamphlet is only of value as containing remarks of Professors Dawkins, Dawson, Hughes and others, who cannot speak without saying something of interest.

MISS ORMEROD'S MANUAL OF INJURIOUS INSECTS.¹—This is a well executed compilation from the best and most recent English sources, and reflects much credit on the judgment and skill of the authoress. It is devoted to "Food Crops and the Insects that injure them," "Forest Trees and the Insects that injure them," and finally to "Fruit Crops and the Insects that injure them." It closes with a glossary, and begins with a brief introduction to entomology. The illustrations are abundant, and their value is assured by the fact that they are mostly copied from Curtis and

¹ *A Manual of Injurious Insects*, with Methods of Prevention and remedy for their attacks to Food Crops, Forest Trees, and Fruit, and with a short introduction to entomology. By ELEANOR A. ORMEROD, F.M.S., &c. London, W. Swan Sonnenschein & Allens. (1881.) 12mo., pp. 323.

Westwood. Miss Ormerod has evidently taken a good deal of pains with the subject of remedies, and here the book is strong. We have found a number of most useful hints for dealing with forest insects, which are quite new to us. The style is compact and clear, and the book as a whole is an excellent and useful one.

RECENT BOOKS AND PAMPHLETS.—Diptera, gesammelt von Hermann Krone auf den Aucklands-Inseln bei Gelegenheit der deutschen Venus-Expedition in den Jahren 1874 und 1875. Bearbeitet von Professor Josef Mik in Wien. From the Verhandl. der K. K. zool. bot. Ges. in Wien, 1881. From the author.

Praktische Insekten-Kunde. Von Professor Dr. E. L. Taschenberg. Band I, Einführung in die Insekten-Kunde. Bremen, 1879. 8vo, pp. 233. Band II, Die Käfer und Hautflügler. Bremen, 1879. 8vo, pp. 401. Band III, Die Schmetterlinge. Bremen, 1880. 8vo, pp. 311. Band IV, Die Zweiflügler, Netzflügler und Kaukerfe. Bremen, 1880. 8vo, pp. 227. Band V, Die Schnabelkerfe, Flügellosen Parasiten und als Anhang einiges Ungeziefer welches nicht zu den Insekten gehört. Bremen, 1880.

Beiträge zur Kenntniss der Flussfische Südamerikas. Von Dr. Franz Steindachner. Aus dem XLIV bände der Mathematisch-Naturwissenschaftlichen Classe der Kaiserlichen Akademie der Wissenschaften. Wien, 1881. III, 4to, pp. 18, v plates. From the author.

Ichthyologische Beiträge (XI). Von Dr. Franz Steindachner. 8vo, pp. 14, 1 plate. Extract from the LXXXIII Bände der Stizb. der k. Akad. Wissensch. I Mai-Heft. Leipzig, 1881. From the author.

Dr. H. G. Bronn's Klassen und Ordnungen des Thier-Reichs. Fortgesetzt von C. K. Hoffmann, Doctor der Medicin und Philosophie in Leiden. Sechster Band, III. Abtheilung Reptilien 22, 23 und 24 Lieferung. 8vo, pp. 89, 21 plates. Leipzig und Heidelberg, 1881. From the author.

Molluscorum Systema et Catalogus. System und Aufzählung Sammtlicher Conchylien der Sammlung von Fr. Paetel. Zur Belebung des Interesses für Malakozoologie nach dessen Manuscript herausgegeben von Dr. L. W. Schaafuss. 8vo, pp. 113. Dresden, 1869. From the author.

Exposition D'Histoire Naturelle a Reims. M. Cotteau, Association Française pour L'Avancement des Sciences. Congrès de Reims, 1880. 8vo, pp. 8. From the society.

Recherches sur les Ossements Fossiles des Terrains Tertiaires Inférieurs des environs de Reims. Par M. Victor Lemoine, Docteur és Sciences, Professeur à l'Ecole de Medicin de Reims. 8vo, pp. 56, 1v plate. Reims, 1880. From the author.

Recherches sur L'Organization des Branchiobdelles. Par M. Victor Lemoine. Ext. Association Française pour L'Avancement des Sciences, 1880. 8vo, pp. 30, III, quarto plate. Reims. 1880. From the author.

Remarques sur les Dépôts Marins de la periode Actuelle au point de vue du Synchronisme des couches. Par M. Léon Vaillant. 8vo, pp. 6. Extrait du Bulletin de la Société Geologique de France, 1880. Paris, 1880. From the author.

Sur les Colonies dans les roches taconiques des Bordes du lac Champlaine. Par M. Jules Marcou. 8vo, pp. 30, plate II. Ext. du Bulletin de la Société Geologique de France. Paris, 1880. From the author.

Memoire sur la Disposition des Vertebres Cervicales chez les Cheloniens. Par M. Léon Vaillant. 8vo, pp. 106, plates v. Paris, 1880. From the author.

Sur les Raies recueillies dans l'Amazone par M. le Dr. Jobert. Par M. Léon Vaillant. 8vo, pp. 2. Extrait du Bulletin de la Société Philomathique de Paris. Paris, 1880. From the author.

Ministere de L'Agriculture et du Commerce, Exposition Universelle Internationale